Appln. No.: 10/776,473

Amndt. dated September 8, 2005

Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete paragraph 0019 of the published application and replace with the following

paragraph:

[0019] --Finally, when thermally sprayed the experimental alloy powder does not transfer heat

sufficiently using conventional operating parameters due to its relatively low conductivity and

inability to absorb heat. When using high velocity oxy-fuel thermal spray system, conventional

alloys can be sprayed with equivalence ratios (kerosene fuel/oxygen fuel flow rate) equal to 0.8.

Because of the low thermal conductivity of the modified experimental alloys, much higher

equivalence ratios, in the range of 0.9-1.2, are necessary in order to provide sufficient heating of

the powder. Additionally, when deposited via the LENS (Laser Engineered Net Shape) process,

in which a high powered laser is used to melt metal powder supplied to the focus of the laser by a

deposition head, the very thin deposit (225 µm thick weld) took excessive time before another

layer can be deposited since it glows red hot for an extended time.--

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